



ISSUE No. 3 - APRIL/2018

WHAT IS SKILLCO? - An innovative project for facing skill gaps in the construction sector

COORDINATOR

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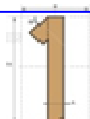
PROJECT PARTNERS



CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING MATERIALS INDUSTRY OF SLOVENIA (CCIS CCBMIS)



Institute
of the Republic of Slovenia
for Vocational Education
and Training



THE SKILLCO PROJECT

SKILLCO is an innovative project for tackling the problem of skill gaps in the construction industry. It is a three-year collaborative project between vocational education and training (VET) providers, national regulatory partners and representative of the construction sector at the EU and at the national levels, covering Germany, Hungary and Slovenia.

The SKILLCO project, coordinated by the Chamber of Construction and Building Materials Industry of Slovenia (CCIS CCBMIS), gathers social partners organisations and training providers from Germany, Hungary and Slovenia, as well as FIEC (European Construction Industry Federation), the EU umbrella organisation for employers in the construction industry.



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SKILLCO CELEBRATING THE EUROPEAN VOCATIONAL SKILLS WEEK 2017

The European Vocational Skills Week 2017 was held from 20th to 24th November 2017, where our consortium also took part. Against the background of the Vocational Skills Week the SKILLCO consortium publishes its first two outcomes of the project. The consortium decided to publish the outcomes earlier than planned to raise awareness to the challenge of existing skills gaps among the European construction sector.

"Both employers and employees should keep in mind the importance of lifelong learning and up/re-skilling in order to be competitive within this dynamic economic sector", Ms. Valentina Kuzma, coordinator of the project, emphasized.

Construction sector has been hit hard by the economic crisis, but generally, the European construction market shows a trend of steady growth. The future of European construction market looks bright and that is also because of the measures such as the Construction 2020 Action Plan and eco-innovation policy.

One of the major goals in Europe that will also provide new jobs is promoting green energy and »smart infrastructure«. Aims of the policy are investing in technology and innovation in construction industry. In construction industry there is also one trend which was identified and that is digital construction.

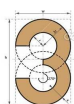
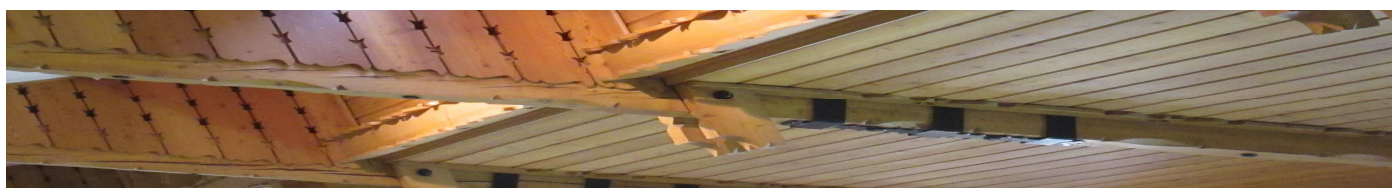
Larger European construction companies have all defined their vision around digital construction. Because of the economic crisis in the past years, the companies made fewer investments in the development and new technologies. Now, as the market is recovering the adaptation and investments in new technologies in construction sector is growing.

Over 3 million construction workers will need to increase their skills in the building sector in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy by 2020. This and other outcomes showing the importance of developing a qualified workforce are gathered in the latest EU BUILD UP Skills report.



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WORK PACKAGE 2 SUCCESSFULLY FINALIZED

The general report on findings of skill gaps in the construction sector, which was part of working package 2 "Defining skills gaps and training needs", is now publicly available as also a shorter version of the document (an executive summary).

This final report on research findings reflects our results of desk and field research (data searches, questionnaires, focus group meetings and interviews). It includes 4 sectoral skills gaps that were identified and will be used in the upcoming project activities (developing of learning units, learning material and pilot trainings).

Four sectoral skills gaps identified

Besides identifying 4 skill gaps in the fields of green skills, literacy, numeracy and occupational safety and health, we have put special attention to valuable sectoral vanishing skills, which will be presented through video clips and photographs. Slovenia and Germany will present wooden construction, and Hungary, because of their natural environment thatched roof construction. Since EU is putting more and more emphasis on digital skills, project SKILLCO is addressing those by producing video clips on 4 identified sectoral skills gaps fields and particular missing skill.

Video clips for good and bad practice

Video clips will be integrated in multi language app SKILLCO, which is in the process of conception and content drafting. VET centers, schools and companies will be able to use new video clips, produced via project SKILLCO in autumn and winter time 2018 (by VET centers from Slovenia, Germany and Hungary) as introduction to lessons on sectoral skills training for identified 4 skills.

- 1.Green skills: Reuse of construction waste material**
- 2.Occupational safety and health: Prevention of musculoskeletal disorders**
- 3.Literacy: Construction project documentation**
- 4.Numeracy: Cost calculations in construction**

Apart from video clips, project partners have also produced photos with identified skills (pictures, graphs, sketches etc.) that will help teachers, trainers and mentors in their pedagogic and work training of pupils and employees.

Please, find "The general report on findings of skill gaps in the construction sector" in the output section and our executive summary is also available on our homepage [The general report on findings of skill gaps in the construction sector.](#)

You are more than welcome to give us your feedback on the final document via this link: <http://www.skillco.eu/en/content/contact/>.

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About the skill gaps and vanishing skills videos were made by the project partners, which contains general, good and bad examples of the different skills.



**Recycling in the
Construction Sector,
What is the Impact?**

**Prevention of
Construction
Related Illnesses
and Disorders**

**Understanding the
Construction
Documentation With
The Use of modern**

**Construction
Calculation Results
And Impact**

**Correct Handling
with Construction
Waste Material**

**Appropriate body
moves for different
type of construction**

**Positive
(appropriate)
example of literacy**

**Correct Way Of
Construction
Calculations**

**Adequate recycling –
Chance to save the
environment**

**Why the Correct
Construction Worker
Body Postures Are**

**Negative example of
literacy**

**Possible
Construction
Calculation Errors**

**Building a timber-
framed wall**

**Building Wooden
Hayracks**

**Thatched roof
constructions**

**SKILLCO TRAILER-
INTRODUCTION**



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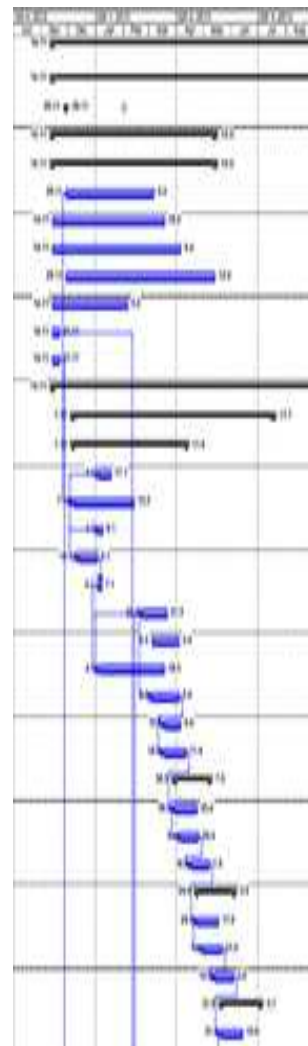
LEARNING MATERIAL NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT

In project SKILLCO we develop four learning units where we use ECVET as a technical framework for the transfer, recognition and, where appropriate, accumulation of learning outcomes, with a view to achieving a qualification. We focus on learning outcomes since they represent a significant step towards a greater openness of standards (educational and occupational), learning programmes (curricula) and the qualifications that reflect these standards and programmes.

Instead of focusing on input factors like the duration of a programme, location of learning (institution) and a particular method underpinning a qualification, pedagogical method underpinning a qualification, attention instead is directed towards what a learner is expected to know, understand and is able to do at the end of a learning process, whatever the route that learning process takes.

National systems are inevitably complex, especially to outsiders, as they have to be based on the social and cultural history, traditions and institutions of the country. This complexity can make qualification systems difficult to understand from outside the country and the systems can also appear complex for people inside countries; learning outcomes can bring some transparency to systems in terms of the learning individuals are expected to demonstrate. It follows that the interest in learning outcomes at national level is also high and, whilst reflecting European level policy, the national interest tends to focus more on:

- the need for education and training to be based on explicit standards defined with the help of social partners;
- having clear expectations of learning institutions in meeting national/regional or sectoral standards; and,
- having confidence in the quality assurance processes linked to education and qualifications systems.

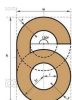


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SKILLCO APP DEVELOPMENT HAS STARTED

One of our major outcomes, the mobile supporting app for teachers, trainers and also students, is now under development. The app will contain several learning units with custom developed learning material. The material is developed according to 4 identified sectoral skills gaps we identified from different skills: numeracy, literacy, ICT and green skills. The new SKILLCO App will be designed for different users: The majority of uploaded materials and docs will be for VET teachers, trainers and mentors, whereas students, trainees and employees will benefit from practical exercises, videos and photos of good and bad practise and assessment examples and other pedagogical material.



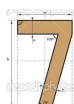
SKILLCO PRESENTED ON THE SOCIAL DIALOGUE MEETING OF WORKING GROUP ON "VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND YOUTH"

On the 15th of March 2018 the SKILLCO project made another big step spreading its newest Outcomes to potential stakeholders and multipliers.

During the Social Dialogue in the construction sector meeting in Brussels, organized by our project member FIEC and the European Federation of Building and Woodworkers, the general report of Output 2.4 - identification of skills gaps - as well as our project trailer video were presented. Stakeholders gave us very positive feedback and praise the current results.



Photo: SKILLCO presentation at the SOC-1 meeting in Brussels.



UPCOMING PROJECT EVENTS

24th April 2018: public

Budapest, Hungary - 1st national project conference

29-30 May 2018: closed for public

Budapest 4th Project partner meeting

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* „GAP-ABLE” MEANS CAPABLE OF GAPS

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Partner contacts:



**Chamber of Commerce and Industry
of Slovenia**

Gospodarska zbornica Slovenije www.gzs.si



School Centre Celje

Šolski center Celje www.scc.si



**The Slovenian Institute for
Vocational Education and Training**

Center RS za poklicno izobraževanje www.cpi.si



**West German Chambers of Crafts
and Skilled Trades' Council**

Westdeutscher Handwerkskammertag www.whkt.de



**The Training Institute of the
Federation of Construction Industry
NRW**

Berufsförderungswerk der Bauindustrie NRW gGmbH www.abz-kerpen.de



**The National Federation of
Hungarian Building Contractors**

Építési Vállalkozók Országos Szakszövetsége www.evosz.hu



**Kecskemét Centre of Vocational
Training**

Kecskeméti Szakképzési Centrum www.kecskemetiszc.hu



**European Construction Industry
Federation**

Fédération de l'Industrie Européenne de la Construction www.fiec.eu

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The newsletter was edited by KSZC



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